

Decision No. C24-0656-I

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 24AL-0373E

IN THE MATTER OF ADVICE LETTER NO. 872 FILED BY BLACK HILLS COLORADO ELECTRIC, LLC DOING BUSINESS AS BLACK HILLS ENERGY TO DECREASE THE ENERGY COST ADJUSTMENT RATE, TO BECOME EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024.

**INTERIM COMMISSION DECISION GRANTING
REQUEST FOR ALTERNATIVE FORM OF NOTICE**

Issued Date: September 11, 2024

Adopted Date: September 11, 2024

I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statement, Findings, and Conclusions

1. On August 30, 2024, Black Hills Colorado Electric, LLC (“Black Hills” or the “Company”) filed a Motion for Commission Approval of an Alternative Form of Notice (“Motion”) to apply to Advice Letter No. 872- Electric which seeks to amend its Energy Cost Adjustment (“ECA”) rate, contained on Tariff Sheet No. 65 in the Rates section of its Colo. P.U.C. No. 11-Electric Tariff.

2. Black Hills moves pursuant to § 40-3-104(1)(c)(I)(E), C.R.S., and Rule 1207(b), 4 *Code of Colorado Regulations* (“CCR”) 723-1, to provide alternative forms of notice for the Company’s filing to its customers. Black Hills requests Commission approval to use the following forms of notice:

- a. Filing with the Commission, and keeping open for inspection, Advice Letter No. 872- Electric. Black Hills will also post on its website at the time of filing: a Customer Notice and Advice Letter No. 872-Electric with its accompanying tariff sheet, for 30 days. The website posting will include a reference to the applicable proceeding number;

- b. Printing a message on each applicable customer's bill providing the website URL for the Customer Notice, Advice Letter, the accompanying tariff sheet, and a toll-free phone number for assistance, beginning within one week of the filing of the Advice Letter;
- c. Publishing a legal notice of Advice Letter No. 872 - Electric in three newspapers of general circulation for the service territory: 1) *The Pueblo Chieftain* (two consecutive Tuesdays); and 2) the *Cañon City Daily Record* (two consecutive Fridays); and 3) the *Rocky Ford Daily Gazette* (two consecutive Thursdays).

3. Black Hills maintains good cause exists for the Commission to approve the proposed alternative forms of notice because it will not be able to complete the statutory notice requirement in a timely or cost-efficient manner otherwise. The Company states the proposed forms of notice if and this will avoid incurring the expenses associated with other forms of statutory notice. The Company asserts the proposed alternative forms of notice will be able to reach all customers in the service territory in an affordable and efficient manner.

4. Pursuant to § 40-3-104(1)(c)(I)(E), C.R.S., and 4 CCR 723-1-1207(b) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, a utility may request to provide alternative forms of notice of a tariff change. We find the alternative forms of notice the Company proposes in the Motion will provide sufficient notice in an efficient manner. We therefore find good cause to approve the alternative forms of notice that the Company requests.

II. ORDER

A. It Is Ordered That:

1. The Motion for Commission Approval of an Alternative Form of Notice, filed by, Black Hills Colorado Electric, LLC on August 30, 2024, is granted.

2. This Decision is effective upon its Issued Date.

**B. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING
September 11, 2024.**

(S E A L)



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca E. White".

Rebecca E. White,
Director

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

ERIC BLANK

MEGAN M. GILMAN

TOM PLANT

Commissioners